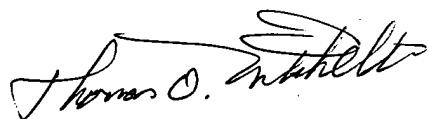


hydroxylamine sulfate, hydrazine monohydrochloride, hydrazine dihydrochloride, hydrazine sulfate, hydrazine monobromide, hydrazine dibromide, hydrazine monoiodide, hydrazine diiodide and hydroquinone together with (ii) at least one member selected from the group consisting of gluconodeltalactone, citric acid, salts of citric acid, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, salts of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid, nitrilotriacetic acid, salts of nitrilotriacetic acid, hydroxyethylethylenediaminetriacetic acid, and salts of hydroxyethylethylenediamine-triacetic acid and (iii) a catalytic amount of a solubilized salt of a compound capable of providing cupric, cuprous, nickel, or zinc ions. The method consists of contacting the subterranean formation in an appropriate manner with the above-described composition present in an amount sufficient to sequester iron. In an acidic aqueous stimulating fluid the mixture is said to substantially reduce any ferric ions in the stimulating fluid to ferrous ions and to scavenge at least a portion of the oxygen present in the aqueous fluid to substantially prevent the oxidation of the ferrous ions to ferric ions and thus substantially to prevent the precipitation of iron on the pore surfaces of the subterranean formation. No reason is given for the selection of the specific reducing agents listed, and no others are discussed.

It is believed that no fee is due for this preliminary amendment, however, in the event a fee is necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1579(56.0620) in the amount of any applicable fee.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas O. Mitchell
Reg. No. 47,800
Agent for Applicants

Date: Dec. 31, 2003
Schlumberger Technology Corporation
110 Schlumberger Drive, MD-1
Sugar Land, Texas 77478
281-285-4490